As regards your suggestion to appoint an Inspectress of Girls' Schools to supervise Mahomedan schools, the number of such schools is small and there is hardly any necessity for such an appointment.

MEMBER : One of the objects for which I ask for the appointment of an inspectress is to carry on propaganda work among the members of our community.

PRESIDENT : That I think had better be left to the leaders of the community.

Then in regard to the introduction of the teaching of Hindi in schools, I do not know how the matter stands. I shall look into it.

**168. Needs of the Muslims.**

MR. M. MUHOMMED HUSSAIN (*Member, Municipal Council, Padmanabhapuram*) said that Muslims were poorly represented in the Registration, Excise and Police Departments. There were several qualified pleaders among the Muslims, who the member stated could be appointed in these departments. As regards the Judicial Department, the rules regarding experience at the bar was standing as an obstacle in the way of many Muslim vakils. In view of the backward condition of the community it was necessary that Government should relax this rule in their case. So far as the Excise and Police Departments were concerned, several Muslim officers had already done good work in these departments. Qualified Muslim candidates who were practising as pleaders might be appointed in these departments. The member also said that in the matter of appointments, so far as Muslims were concerned, Government should not make any distinction between sects within the community. Once they made such a distinction, they should give preference to the Non-Dakni sects. These were immensely larger in number than the others and were the real sons of the soil. Most of the qualified men also belonged to these sects. They had therefore to be preferred to the other sects. The member felt constrained to say so much on this point because Government seemed to favour the policy of giving separate representation to Dakni Muhommedans.

Next, the member said that Government should introduce compulsory primary education among the Muslims.

Under the existing rules, Arabic munshis were appointed only in schools where there were not less than twenty-five Muhommedan pupils. The working of this rule caused hardship to many Muslim boys. The member urged for the minimum number of boys in a school for the appointment of munshis being reduced to fifteen. In the vernacular primary school at Thuckalai there were more than thirty Muslim pupils, but no Arabic munshi was yet appointed there. A munshi should be appointed by the next school year.

PRESIDENT'S REPLY: Mr. Muhammad Hussain, as regards the representation of the members of the several communities in the publice service, Government have clearly enunciated their policy. All that I can say is that it will not be departed from. When the system of recruitment and promotion in the Judicial Department is revised as indicated in the Dewan's opening address, I am sure the claims of the Mahomedan community will not be lost sight of. You say that no Arabic Munshi has been appointed in the vernacular school, Tuckalai. In regard to this, the Director of Public Instruction points out that the school being only of the primary grade, it is entitled to have on its staff only a Koran teacher on Rs. 10 per mensem, and not an Arabic Munshi.

MEMBER : Even a Koran teacher has not been entertained in that school.

PRESIDENT : The attention of the Director will be invited to this.

In regard to the appointment of men from the Dakni section, Government have not given any such undertaking as you say.

**169. Concessions to the Muslim community.**

MR. H. B. MUHOMMED ROWTHER (*Member, Nominated*) spoke of the following needs of the Muslims:—

(1) Muslims should be given more appointments in the Judicial Department.

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